

**TOWN OF NEWFIELDS SELECT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY JULY 14, 2020**

Select Board Present: Chris Hutchins & Michael Sununu

Others Include: Sabrina Daley, Bobby Kelly, Brian Knipstein & Jacqui Silvani

Call to order at 7:00 pm.

The Select Board reviewed and approved the following items:

Checks Dated 06/17/20: Accounts Payable Manifest \$11,352.52

Michael, as a Trustee of the Sidewalk Fund, gave Brian permission to complete the sidewalk renovation between the Country Store and Hemlock Ct. Brian confirmed the sidewalk fund's \$9k would be more than enough to cover the cost. Brian advised the Board of approximately \$90k left in the highway fund and the need to retain at least \$20k of it for the winter salting/plowing. Paving of the salt shed/Hervey Court will utilize \$35k of the balance. Brian will be able to save a couple thousand dollars by paving at the same time as the Sewer Department in the fall.

The Board advised Brian of the auditor's advice to send paving out to bid given the size of it in relation to the Town's Budget. Brian discussed the issues that he will have in determining the bid packages. The bid needs to be precise in the amounts for each line item (grind, paving inches etc.) Bell and Flynn has been paving the Town since the 1960's and has knowledge of every road and the costs involved for each. They are also nearby for any emergencies. Michael was okay with having Brian continue the paving of the salt shed/Hervey Court and putting other items to bid starting next year.

Brian and the Board discussed best place storage ideas for the Rt. 108 bridge light posts. They decided on the grass area behind the salt shed. Michael will contact the State to let them know the Town is keeping the lights and has a place to store them.

Brian spoke with Waste Management regarding a possible placement for a recycling container for the Town. Michael and Brian believe the best area would be on the left side of the hammerhead on Winkler Way. More discussion would be needed regarding security, possible fencing and compensating for personnel if the Town chooses to offer an in-town recycling option in the future.

Sabrina discussed the issues she and her neighbors are having with the increased number of visitors on the Rail Trail by her house. The widening of the trail entrance by the 'Groomer,' has allowed a high number of cars to park there, as well as on her property. She has an issue with the number of non-residents coming from 7am till dusk with unleashed dogs and leaving debris. She can no longer enjoy being in her yard with all the cars, noise from the people hanging out and barking dogs. She would like to have a no parking sign posted but was told by the State that the Town's permission is needed first. Chris informed Sabrina that the NH Bureau of Trails actually owns the trail. Michael believes the Rockingham Junction parking lot, once completed, may alleviate some

of the issue. While he recognizes her issues, people should be allowed to utilize the trail. Michael will reach out to Chief Liebenow and will get back to Sabrina.

The Board tabled the CCAC appointment until the next meeting to allow the Board time to review the list of possible candidates and reach out to whomever is selected. Jacqui offered to advertise the need for a new volunteer on the Community Facebook page.

The Board reviewed the SELT Letter of Understanding pertaining to the purchase of the Conner property for \$325,000 with additional fees of \$31,610. Michael thought the fees were high, but is unfamiliar with what is typically charged. The agreement also specifies \$66,610 of municipal funds towards the project with a target completion dates of August 31, 2021. Michael's first concern is getting the funds appropriated prior to the deadline. His second issue is whether this agreement binds the Town for the purchase of this property, if the anticipated grants/donations are not received. He will reach out to the Town Attorney to discuss further and Chris will reach out to Steve, the Chair of the Conservation Commission.

Michael motioned, seconded by Chris, to approve and sign contract with Sanders Searches, LLC to perform mortgagee searches for delinquent taxes. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Michael motioned, seconded by Chris, to approve the abatement for map 209, lot 26.1. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The Board tabled the discussion on the PA-28 Inventory of Taxable Property until the next meeting when Jamie will be present.

Michael discussed the renovations of Dunkin Donuts and the opening of Fire and Spice Bistro with Bobby, the Town Health Inspector. Bobby hasn't scheduled a walk thru for Dunkin Donuts yet. The Fire and Spice Bistro will be officially opening on Friday, July 17th.

Michael motioned, seconded by Chris, to approve the 6/16/20 Select Board Meeting Minutes as amended. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Chris motioned, seconded by Michael, to approve the 6/30/20 Select Board Meeting Minutes as drafted. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The Select Board decided to meet only once next month, August 18th, as the only main item would be the Garvey suit which Michael feels should settle soon. If, for some reason, there is push back from Garvey, the Town could always impose the daily fine which result in significantly higher fines then what is proposed now.

At 7:52 pm, Chris motioned, seconded by Michael, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kisha Therrien